



*State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913*

*PH (517) 373.7350 | FAX (517) 373.9228*

*[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/patterson/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/patterson/)*

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Contact: Christopher Kelley  
Phone (517) 373-7350

### **Internet ‘hunting’ ban becomes law**

LANSING – Is it right to kill animals and call it ‘sport’? This question causes intense debate. However, there is now a proposition on which both hunters and non-hunters can certainly agree:

Animals should not be targeted over the internet, and killed at the click of a mouse, just to satisfy a lust to kill.

Hunting animals remotely via computer has been made illegal in Michigan under legislation signed into law by the governor this week. It would outlaw remote hunting from within this state, regardless of where the targeted animal is located.

“No one can say that ‘hunting’ by pointing and clicking a mouse is sportsmanship,” said Sen. Bruce Patterson, an avid hunter and sponsor of one of the bills. “This is an appalling abuse of technology. This armchair video game version is an abhorrent practice. There is no respect of the hunter for the quarry. Here, at last, is a place where both animal rights activists and hunters can agree.”

Patterson’s legislation is part of a three-bill package that makes it illegal to use a computer to remotely control a firearm or crossbow to hunt game or to operate a facility offering such services. The package also establishes penalties for violators.

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